

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 19-22, as amended, remain herein. Claims 10-18 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 19 and 21 are amended, and claim 22 is added.

The amendment to claim 1 is supported in the specification at page 12, lines 6-9 and 13-16.

This amendment is believed to place this application fully in condition for allowance, and certainly places it in better form for any appeal. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment and allowance of all claims 1-9 and 19-22, are respectfully requested.

1. Claim 21 has been corrected, thereby mooting the objection thereto.
2. Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 19 as now amended is fully supported by the specification, pages 6-7. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.
3. Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) or § 103(a) over Okada U.S. Patent 5,093,404.

Claim 1 claims a modified propylene based polymer obtained by modifying at least one propylene based polymer selected from the group consisting of (a) a propylene homopolymer, (b) a random copolymer of propylene and α -olefin, (c) a block copolymer of propylene and α -olefin, and (d) a graft copolymer of propylene and α -olefin, with a radical initiator, and a compound containing in the same molecule an ethylenic double bond and a polar group.

Okada discloses a modified propylene obtained in part from an unsaturated aromatic monomer. See Okada '404, col. 9, line 25-26, and col. 10, lines 3-6. Okada does not teach or suggest a modified propylene based polymer obtained by modifying one of four homopolymers

Serial No. 10/526,771

or copolymers, as in the claimed invention. Instead, Okada requires an unsaturated aromatic monomer. According to Okada, monomers are necessary to obtaining the resultant polymer. See, e.g., Okada '404, col. 8, lines 4-16. Therefore, Okada does not disclose the modified propylene based polymer of claim 1. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to alter the teachings of Okada, particularly by substituting the homopolymer or copolymers of the claimed invention for the monomers that are central to the polymer described in Okada. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

4. Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) or § 103(a) over Kihira U.S. Patent 5,403,887.

Kihira '887 discloses a resin composition comprising (A) a modified polyolefin resin obtained by introducing a group selected from a) a hydroxyl group, b) an epoxy group and c) a carboxyl group into a crystalline olefin copolymer consisting of at least one of ethylene and α -olefins each having 3 to 8 carbon atoms and at least one chain non-conjugated diene, and (B) a polyamide resin or saturated polyester resin. See Kihira '887, col. 1, lines 9-17. Kihira '887 does not teach a modified propylene based polymer obtained by modifying at least one propylene based polymer selected from the group consisting of (a) a propylene homopolymer, (b) a random copolymer of propylene and α -olefin, (c) a block copolymer of propylene and α -olefin, and (d) a graft copolymer of propylene and α -olefin, with a radical initiator, and a compound containing in the same molecule an ethylenic double bond and a polar group, as claimed by Applicants. Instead, Kihira requires at least one chain non-conjugated diene. See Kihara '887, col. 2, lines 42-55.

Serial No. 10/526,771

According to Kihira, at least one if not more chain non-conjugated dienes is necessary to obtaining the resultant polymer. See, e.g., Kihara '887, col. 2, lines 42-55. Therefore, Kihira does not disclose the modified propylene based polymer of the claimed invention. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to alter the teachings of Kihira, especially by substituting the homopolymer or copolymers of the claimed invention for the chain non-conjugated dienes that are central to the polymer described in Kihira. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

For at least the foregoing reasons, allowance of all claims 1-9 and 19-22 is respectfully requested.

The PTO is hereby authorized to charge or credit any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, he is invited to telephone applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 16, 2006



Roger W. Parkhurst
Reg. No. 25,177
C. Donald Stevens
Reg. No. 53,638

New Attorney Docket No.: 28955.1046
Old Attorney Docket No. HEIW:046

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 429-3000
Fax: (202) 429-3902